

# OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

*Edited by*

**FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.**  
**Secretary to the Commission**

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## **OPINION 505**

Validation under the Plenary Powers of the generic names *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839 and *Tretaspis* McCoy,  
1849 (Class Trilobita)

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# INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

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## OPINION 505

### VALIDATION UNDER THE PLENARY POWERS OF THE GENERIC NAMES "TRINUCLEUS" MURCHISON, 1839, AND "TRETASPIS" MCCOY, 1849 (CLASS TRILOBITA)

**RULING** :—(1) The following action is hereby taken under the Plenary Powers :—

(a) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby suppressed for the purposes both of the Law of Priority and of the Law of Homonymy :—

- (i) *Trinucleus* Link, 1807 ;
- (ii) *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839 ;

(b) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy :—

*tuberculatus* Link, 1807, as published in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus*.

(2) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

(a) *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a)(i) above (gender : masculine) (type species, by selection by Vogdes (1890) : *Trinucleus fimbriatus* Murchison, 1839, as defined by the lectotype selected by Stubblefield (C.J.) & Whittington (H.B.) (1956) (Name No. 1252) ;

(b) *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a)(ii) above (gender : feminine) (type species, by selection by Bassler

(R.S.) (1915) : *Asaphus seticornis* Hisinger, 1840  
 (Name No. 1253).

(3) The under-mentioned specific names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *fimbriatus* Murchison, 1839, as published in the combination *Trinucleus fimbriatus*, as defined by the lectotype specified in (2)(a) above (specific name of type species of *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) (Name No. 1490) ;
- (b) *seticornis* Hisinger, 1840, as published in the combination *Asaphus seticornis* (specific name of type species of *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849) (Name No. 1491).

(4) The under-mentioned generic names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) *Trinucleus* Link, 1807, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a)(i) above (Name No. 1140) ;
- (b) *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a)(ii) above (Name No. 1141) ;
- (c) *Edgellia* Shaw (A.B.), 1950 (a junior objective synonym of *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as validated under the Plenary Powers in (1)(a)(i) above) (Name No. 1142).

(5) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid*

*Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 505 :—

*tuberculatus* Link, 1807, as published in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus*, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1)(b) above.

(6) The under-mentioned family-group names are hereby placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) TRINUCLEIDAE (correction of TRINUCLEIDES) Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.)<sup>1</sup>, 1847 (type genus : *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) (Name No. 212) ;
- (b) TRETASPINAE Whittington (H.B.), 1941 (type genus : *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849) (Name No. 213).

(7) The under-mentioned family-group names are hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* with the Name Numbers severally specified below :—

- (a) TRINUCLEEN Emmrich (H.[F.]), 1844 (type genus : *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) (invalid because a vernacular (German) word) (Name No. 253) ;
- (b) TRINUCLEIDES Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.)<sup>1</sup>, 1847 (type genus : *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) (an Invalid Original Spelling for TRINUCLEIDAE) (Name No. 254).

<sup>1</sup> For some years there has been disagreement among Trilobite specialists as to whether the "Prodrom" of 1847, in which this name was published, should be attributed to Hawle and Corda jointly (as stated on the title) or to Corda alone (as was later alleged by Hawle to have been the case). The applicants in the present case took the view that Corda should be regarded as sole author. At the time when this *Opinion* was prepared the disputed authorship in this case was under consideration by the Commission which has since rendered a *Direction* (Direction 95) in which it has ruled that Hawle and Corda are to be treated as having been joint authors. In the same *Direction* the Commission gave instructions that names published in the "Prodrom" should be so attributed in all cases where names published in it had so far been placed on *Official Lists* or *Official Indexes*. The required corrections have accordingly been made in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion*.

## I. THE STATEMENT OF THE CASE

On 19th March 1955 Dr. C. J. Stubblefield (*Geological Survey and Museum, London*) submitted to the Office of the Commission on his own behalf and on that of Dr. H. B. Whittington (*Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.*) a preliminary communication on the subject of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers to validate the generic names *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, and *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849 (Class Trilobita). This led to the submission to the Commission on 16th January 1956 of the following definitive application :—

**Proposed use of the Plenary Powers to validate the generic names "Trinucleus" Murchison, 1839, and "Tretaspis" McCoy, 1849 (Class Trilobita)**

By C. J. STUBBLEFIELD, D.Sc., F.R.S.  
*(Geological Survey and Museum, London)*

and

H. B. WHITTINGTON, D.Sc.  
*(Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard College, Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A.)*

The purpose of the present application is to ask the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature to validate the well-known generic name *Trinucleus* (Class Trilobita) as from Murchison, 1839, and the name *Tretaspis* as from McCoy, 1849. For the first of these purposes the use of the Plenary Powers will be needed to suppress the unidentifiable generic name *Trinucleus* Link, 1807, with the specific name *tuberculatus* published by Link in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus* on the same occasion. For the second of these purposes the suppression is required of the name *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839, which, as a junior objective synonym of *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, is not required but which at present invalidates the established name *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849.

2. The name *Trinucleus* was first used by Link (1807 : 6) for two trilobite fragments previously illustrated by Walch (1776, Pl. 4, figs. 2, 3). These fragments, which Link named *Trinucleus tuberculatus*,

are considered to be specifically and generically unidentifiable (Shaw and Stubblefield, 1950).

3. The next use of the name *Trinucleus* was by Murchison (1839) and the relevant passage with its footnote is quoted below (Murchison, 1839 : 217) :—

... we meet with other forms, including the *Trinucleus*<sup>1</sup>, Llhwydd [sic], a genus never observed in the Upper, yet abounding in the Lower Silurian rocks, particularly *T. Caractaci*, Nob., Pl. 23. f. 1 . . .

<sup>1</sup> Fragments and imperfect specimens only of these Trilobites having been published, I was about to name this genus *Tretaspis* from  $\tau\rho\eta\tau\dot{\eta}\ \dot{\alpha}\sigma\pi\dot{\imath}\dot{s}$ , a shield perforated or deeply sculptured on its margin, for such is the leading generic distinction; when considering that an unquestionable species of this genus was long ago figured by Llhwydd (*Lythophyl. Brit. Ichnogr.* 1699, p. 97, t. 23) as *Trinucleus fimbriatus*, I have in obedience to the practice of the best zoologists retained the original name.

4. This passage is interpreted as :—

- (a) expressing the author's intention to name the genus being discussed *Trinucleus* ;
- (b) rejecting the still-born name *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839 ;
- (c) quoting, but not as reinforcing by acceptance or adoption of the pre-Linnean species-name *Trinucleus fimbriatus* Lhwyd, 1699.

5. Later in the same work Murchison (1839 : 659—660) states, below the generic heading *Trinucleus* ("a new genus under an old name"), after the description of "*Trinucleus Caractaci* (n.s.)" and following the subheading "*Trinucleus fimbriatus* (n.s.) [Pl. 23], f. 2" and the description of that species, "This is probably the same species figured by Lhwyd [sic], Epist. 1. p. 9. t. 23. I have never found it entire, but the caudal extremity occurring in the same fragment of rock with the buckler, and both agreeing with the fig. of Lhwyd, I have considered them as parts of the same species . . . Loc. near Welsh Pool and Builth".

6. The nominal species *Trinucleus fimbriatus* was selected as the type species of the genus *Trinucleus* Murchison by Vogdes in 1890 (: 84). It is important therefore that there should be no doubt as to the identity of the species so named. On the basis of the interpretation given in paragraph 4 above, the name *Trinucleus fimbriatus* is to be regarded as applying to the specimens which Murchison had before him at the time when he published this name, and is not to be treated as a mere re-publication of the pre-Linnean name consisting of the same combination published by Lhwyd in 1699. This is fortunate for two reasons; first, because Lhwyd's specimens cannot now be traced but

were certainly not referable to the same species as Murchison's ; second, because a slab from the Murchison Collection, preserved in the Geological Survey Museum in London, registered as Geol. Soc. Coll. 6836, is labelled " *Trinucleus fimbriatus*. Sil. Syst. pl. 23, fig. 2b & c. Spec. figd. Llandeilo Flags, Gwern y fad [Gwern y fed bach] Nr. Builth. R.I. Murchison Esq". There is no evidence that the writing on the label is that of Murchison ; the label was written before 1911, in which year the Geological Society's collection was given to the Geological Survey ; but since Murchison was knighted in 1863 it is reasonable to suppose that the label was written before 1863, also that the slab may contain some of Murchison's syntypes of this species. The slab agrees, moreover, with the rock fragment mentioned by Murchison in the note quoted above in paragraph 5 above. Murchison's original illustration [1839 : Plate 23, fig. 2] is of a slab containing several fossil fragments of which three were indicated respectively by the artist as a, b and c. The specimen illustrated as fig. 2c is a pygidium [caudal extremity] which was re-identified by Salter [1853 : Decade 7, pl. 7, p. 8] as *Ampyx nudus* Murchison and thus, though forming one of Murchison's syntypes of *T. fimbriatus*, can no longer be acceptable as a lectotype of that species. As stated earlier, the rock fragment is documented as showing the original of fig. 2b, a fragment of craniidium ; doubt exists, however, concerning the identity of the more complete craniidium [buckler] with fig. 2a. There are reasons, nevertheless, for believing that Murchison's illustration of this rock fragment was diagrammatised since the relationship on the slab between the fossils resembling figs. 2a and 2c are approximately as in the illustration but the position of fig. 2b is not as on the slab, nor are the positions of the remaining fossil fragments as they are drawn. Notwithstanding these apparent discrepancies, if the label documentation is correct as far as it concerns fig. 2b and 2c, the more complete craniidium [the buckler] must certainly be a syntype and it is probably the original of fig. 2a which either has been damaged since Murchison's illustration was drawn or the drawing was completed from the additional evidence of another specimen. This more complete craniidium is here selected as the lectotype of *Trinucleus fimbriatus* Murchison, the interpretation of that species being thus placed on a firmer basis.

7. The name *Trinucleus* has been widely and continuously used since Murchison's day in both palaeontological works and in text books of a more general nature. The family name TRINUCLEIDAE was proposed in 1844 and likewise accepted and widely used. Though some have argued correctly (in personal communications) that the name *Trinucleus* has been used in the past in too wide a sense, the restricted usage of today has been clearly understood for many years (see Raymond, 1913 : 711 ; Størmer, 1930). The case for requesting that the name *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, be conserved, and the unused name *Trinucleus* Link, 1807, be suppressed, is clear and strong. The substitute name *Edgellia* Shaw (A.B.), 1950 (*in* Shaw & Stubblefield, *J. Paleont.* 24(5) : 624) has not won acceptance and its adoption would

lead to serious disturbance in current practice. At the same time that the name *Trinucleus* Link is suppressed the unidentifiable name *tuberculatus* published by Link in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus* on the same occasion should also be suppressed.

8. In 1849 (: 410) McCoy proposed the name *Tretaspis* for a new genus of trilobites, citing two species, the first mentioned of which was *Asaphus seticornis* Hisinger, 1840 (: 3) later selected as the type species by Bassler (1915 : 1285). The name *Tretaspis* has been widely used both in Europe and America (Ruedemann, 1901 : 41) for many years, especially since Størmer (1930 : 55) redescribed the type species in detail. For fifteen or more years Scandinavian geologists have been using the term "Tretaspis shales" for rocks in which this genus occurs, rather than the older term "Trinucleus shales" ("Trinucleus" being used here in a generalised sense). There seems to be an equally strong case, therefore, for requesting that the name *Tretaspis* be conserved as from McCoy, 1849, by the suppression under the Plenary Powers of the name *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839, which, as has been explained, has never been used.

9. Each of the generic names dealt with in the present application has been taken as the base for a family-group name. The first of the genera concerned is, as has already been noted (paragraph 7 above), the type genus of the universally recognised family TRINUCLEIDAE. This family-group name is always treated by writers on trilobites as having been first published by Emmrich (H. [F.]) in 1844 (*Zur Naturgeschichte der Trilobiten* : 17). Emmrich published this name in the form TRINUCLEEN, which has the appearance of being a vernacular (German) word rather than a Latinised word. The next author to give this family-group taxon a name was Corda (A.J.C.)<sup>2</sup>, 1847 (*in Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.), Prodrom einer Monogr.* : 36), who used the spelling TRINUCLEIDES. The first author to use this family-group name in an indisputably Latin form was Salter (J.W.) who in 1864 (*Mon. Brit. Trilobites* (Palaeont. Soc.) : 2) used the name in the form TRINUCLEIDAE. Other things being equal, the correct course would be to attribute to Salter (1864) the family-group name based on *Trinucleus*, but in the present case this would lead to exactly the result which it was the object of the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, to avoid, when it laid down that a family-group name may be accepted as from a date on which it was published in a vernacular form instead of in a Latin form where this is necessary in the interests of stability in nomenclature (1953, *Copenhagen Decisions zool. Nomencl.* : 35—36, Decision 53(2)). For if the family-group name based upon *Trinucleus* were accepted as ranking only from Salter, 1864, it would fall as a junior subjective synonym of

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<sup>2</sup> See Footnote 1.

CRYPTOLITHIDAE Angelin, 1854 (*Palaeont. scand.* 1 Crustacea : 64) (type genus : *Cryptolithus* Green, 1832). In these circumstances the family-group name based on *Trinucleus* is properly acceptable as from Emmerich, 1844, the author who, as already explained, is always credited with this name by trilobite workers. The second generic name dealt with in the present application, *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849, has been taken as the base for a subfamily name TRETASPINAE by Whittington (H.B.) in 1941 (*J. Paleont.* 15 : 23).

10. For the reasons set forth in the present application it is here asked that the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature should :—

- (1) use its Plenary Powers for the purpose of suppressing the under-mentioned names to the extent severally shown below :—
  - (a) to be suppressed for the purposes of both the Law of Priority and the Law of Homonymy :—
    - (i) *Trinucleus* Link, 1807 ;
    - (ii) *Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839 ;
  - (b) to be suppressed for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy : *tuberculatus* Link, 1807, as published in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus* ;
- (2) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* :—
  - (a) *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as validated under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a)(i) above (gender : masculine) (type species, by selection by Vogdes (1890) : *Trinucleus fimbriatus* Murchison, 1839, as defined by the lectotype selected in paragraph 6 of the present application) ;
  - (b) *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849, as validated under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a)(ii) above (gender : feminine) (type species, by selection by Bassler (R.S.) (1915) : *Asaphus seticornis* Hisinger, 1840) ;
- (3) place the under-mentioned specific names on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—
  - (a) *fimbriatus* Murchison, 1839, as published in the combination *Trinucleus fimbriatus* and as defined by the lectotype specified in (2)(a) above (specific name of type species of *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) ;
  - (b) *seticornis* Hisinger, 1840, as published in the combination *Asaphus seticornis* (specific name of type species of *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849) ;

- (4) place the under-mentioned generic names on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—
- (a) the generic names specified respectively in (1)(a)(i) and (1)(a)(ii) above, as there suppressed under the Plenary Powers ;
  - (b) *Edgellia* Shaw (A.B.), 1950 (a junior objective synonym of *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as validated under the Plenary Powers under (1)(a)(i) above) ;
- (5) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* : *tuberculatus* Link, 1807, as published in the combination *Trinucleus tuberculatus*, as suppressed under the Plenary Powers under (1)(b) above ;
- (6) place the under-mentioned family-group names on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology* :—
- (a) *TRINUCLEIDAE* (correction of *TRINUCLEEN*) Emmrich (H.[F.]), 1844 (type genus : *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) ;
  - (b) *TRETASPINAE* Whittington (H.B.), 1941 (type genus : *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849) ;
- (7) place on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* the under-mentioned family-group names, each of which is an Invalid Original Spelling for *TRINUCLEIDAE* (type genus : *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839) :—
- (a) *TRINUCLEEN* Emmrich (H.), 1844 ;
  - (b) *TRINUCLEIDES* Corda (A.J.C.)<sup>3</sup>, 1847.

### References

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- Corda (A.J.C.)<sup>4</sup>, 1847, in Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.C.), *Prodrom einer Monographie der böhmischen Trilobiten*, Prag
- Emmrich (H.[F.]), 1844, *Zur Naturgeschichte der Trilobiten*, Meiningen
- Hisinger (W.), 1840, *Lethaea Svecica seu Petrificata Sveciae*, Supp. **2**, Holmiae

<sup>3</sup> See Footnote 1.

<sup>4</sup> See Footnote 1.

- Lhwyd (E.), 1699, *Lithophylacii Britannici Ichnographia*, London
- Link (D.H.F.), 1807, *Beschreibung der Naturalien-Sammlung der Universität zu Rostock*, Abth. 4
- McCoy (F.), 1849, "On the Classification of some British Fossil Crustacea . . .". *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.*, (2) 4 : 392—414
- Murchison (R.I.), 1839, *The Silurian System*, pt. 1 : 1—576 ; pt. 2 : 577—768  
 (There is no evidence that there were different publication dates for these two parts.)
- Raymond (P.E.), 1913, Trilobita in Eastman (C.R.), adaptation of Zittel (K.A. von), *Textbook of Paleontology*, vol. 1, London & New York
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- Shaw (A.B.), and Stubblefield (C.J.), 1950, "Trinucleus Murchison, 1839, as a nomen conservandum". *J. Paleont.* 24 : 624—625
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- Vogdes (A.W.), 1890, "A Bibliography of Paleozoic Crustacea from 1698 to 1889". *Bull. U.S. geol. Survey.*, No. 63 : 1—177
- Walch (J.E.I.), 1776, "Ein Kleiner Beytrag zur Naturgeschichte der Trilobiten". *Der Naturforscher* 9 : 226—227, Halle

## II. THE SUBSEQUENT HISTORY OF THE CASE

**2. Registration of the present application :** Upon the receipt of Dr. C. J. Stubblefield's preliminary enquiry in 1955 the question of the validation of the generic name *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, and *Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849 (Class *Trilobita*) was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 926.

**3. Publication of the present application :** The present application was sent to the printer on 29th February 1956 and was published on 12th June of the same year in Part 2 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Stubblefield & Whittington, 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **12** : 49—54).

**4. Issue of Public Notices :** Under the revised procedure prescribed by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **4** : 51—56), Public Notice of the possible use by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature of its Plenary Powers in the present case was given on 12th June 1956 (a) in Part 2 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (the Part in which the application by Dr. Stubblefield and Dr. Whittington was published) and (b) to the other prescribed serial publications. In addition such Notice was given to four general zoological serial publications and to three palaeontological serials in Europe and America.

**5. Support received from Rudolf and Emma Richter (Forschungs-Institutes und Natur-Museums Senckenberg, Frankfurt a.M., Germany) :** On 30th July 1956 Dr. Rudolf Richter and Frau Emma Richter (*Forschungs-Institutes und Natur-Museums Senckenberg, Frankfurt a.M., Germany*) addressed the following letter to the Office of the Commission, commenting on the present and other recently published cases in the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* (Richter (R) & Richter (E.), 1956, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* **12** : 255) :—

Für den Fall, dass es den betreffenden Anträgen helfen kann, möchten wir Ihnen mitteilen, dass wir sie im Interesse der Stabilität der Nomenklatur nachdrücklich unterstützen.

Es handelt sich um folgende Anträge : *Paradoxides*, *Asaphus*, *Trinucleus* and *Cryptonymus*.

**6. No Objection Received :** No objection to the action proposed in the present case was received from any source.

### III. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

**7. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(57)5 :** On 22nd January 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(57)5) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, "the proposal relating to the generic name *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as set out in Points (1) to (7) in paragraph 10 on pages 52 to 54 of Volume 12 of the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature*" [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Opinion*].

**8. The Prescribed Voting Period :** As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the Three-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 22nd April 1957.

**9. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5 :** At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-three (23) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Hering ; Boschma ; Holthuis ; Prantl ; Lemche ; Mayr ; Dymond ; Bodenheimer ; Vokes ; Sylvester-Bradley ; Riley ; Esaki ; Key ; Hemming ; Bonnet ; Mertens ; Jaczewski ; Stoll ; Cabrera ; do Amaral ; Kühnelt ; Tortonese ; Miller ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, one (1) :*

Bradley (J.C.) ;

(d) Prevented from voting by the interruption of postal communications consequent upon political disturbances, one (1) :

Hankó ;

(e) Voting Papers not returned :

None.

**10. Declaration of Result of Vote :** On 24th April 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 9 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

**11. Acceptance of the name "Trinucleides" Hawle & Corda, 1847, as the oldest available family-group name based on the generic name "Trinucleus" Murchison, 1839 :** Simultaneously with the signature on 24th April 1957 of the Certificate (referred to in paragraph 10 above) regarding the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5, Mr. Hemming executed the following Minute directing for the reasons there stated that in lieu of the name TRINUCLEEN Emmrich, 1844, the name TRINUCLEIDES (an Invalid Original Spelling for TRINUCLEIDAE) Hawle & Corda, 1847 be accepted as the oldest available family-group name for the taxon having the nominal genus *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, as type genus :—

Adoption of "Trinucleides" Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.), 1847, as the oldest available family-group name based on the generic name "Trinucleus" Murchison, 1839 (Class Trilobita)

MINUTE by FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature)

The question of the name to be accepted as the oldest available family-group name based on the generic name *Trinucleus* Murchison,

1839 (Class Trilobita) has this day been reviewed in the light of a question in regard thereto raised by Professor Dr. Tadeusz Jaczewski (*Warsaw*) when returning his completed Voting Paper (V.P.(57)5) relating to the application submitted jointly by Dr. C. J. Stubblefield and Dr. H. B. Whittington in regard to the above generic name and to the generic name *Tretaspis* M<sup>c</sup>Coy, 1849.

2. In the application submitted in this case Dr. Stubblefield and Dr. Whittington explained that the first two authors to publish family-group names based on the generic name *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, both employed irregular terminations for the name so introduced, Emmrich (H.[F.]), (1844), using the spelling TRINUCLEEN. Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.), (1847), using the spelling TRINUCLEIDES. The applicants added that the first author to use this family-group name in an indisputably Latin form was Salter (J.W.) who in 1864 published this name in the correct form TRINUCLEIDAE. It was explained, however, that serious confusion would result if this name were to be accepted only as from 1864, for in that event it would be a junior subjective synonym of the name CRYPTOLITHIDAE Angelin, 1854. For these reasons Dr. Stubblefield & Dr. Whittington recommended that in accordance with the principle of stability enjoined by the Fourteenth International Congress of Zoology, Copenhagen, 1953, the important family-group name TRINUCLEIDAE should be accepted as having priority as from the year 1844 when it was published by Emmrich in the defective form TRINUCLEEN.

3. In commenting on this aspect of the present application, Professor Jaczewski drew attention to the fact that, although the termination “-ES” used for this family-group name by Hawle & Corda when they published it in the form TRINUCLEIDES was defective, there could be no doubt that the word so published was a Latinised word, the above termination being one which could not have been used if, like the name TRINUCLEEN Emmrich, the name TRINUCLEIDES Hawle & Corda had been a vernacular name. Professor Jaczewski accordingly concluded that the correct course in the present case would be to accept TRINUCLEIDAE as having been validly published as a Latin word, though with the defective termination “-ES” by Hawle & Corda in 1847, rather than to treat the present as a special case by accepting this name as from Emmrich (1844), whose name TRINUCLEEN was undoubtedly a vernacular word.

4. I have since discussed this matter with Dr. Stubblefield as the senior author of the present application. Dr. Stubblefield would have preferred that this name should have been accepted as having been validly published by Emmrich (1844), who had always been treated by specialists in the Trilobita as having been the first author to establish a family-group name based on the generic name TRINUCLEUS Murchison. Dr. Stubblefield accepted, however, the view that the

name TRINUCLEIDES, as published by Hawle & Corda in 1847 was a Latinised word and therefore that under the *Règles* the family-group name TRINUCLEIDAE could be accepted as from the publication in 1847 of the defectively formed version TRINUCLEIDES Hawle & Corda (a name attributed by the applicants in the present case to Corda alone). The acceptance of this name as from Hawle & Corda (1847) would give it priority over the name CRYPTOLITHIDAE Angelin, 1854, and would thus avoid the confusion which would result if that name were to replace the name TRINUCLEIDAE as a senior subjective synonym. The principal object of this part of the original application would thus be secured. In these circumstances Dr. Stubblefield indicated that he did not desire to press his (and Dr. Whittington's) original proposal that the family-group name based on *Trinucleus* Murchison should be accepted as from TRINUCLEEN Emmrich, 1844, and would be quite satisfied if the Commission were to treat this name as having been first validly published (in the form TRINUCLEIDES) by Hawle & Corda in 1847.

5. The point made in this matter by Professor Jaczewski is undoubtedly valid and, as its acceptance would meet the purposes of the application submitted in this case and is moreover acceptable to the applicants, I now, as Secretary, direct that in the *Opinion* to be rendered giving effect to the vote taken by the Commission on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5 the following corrections be made in the portion of the proposal relating to the family-group name based on the generic name *Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839 :—

- (1) the name TRINUCLEEN Emmrich (H.[F.]), 1844, to be placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology* as a name which is invalid by reason of being a vernacular (German) word ;
- (2) the name TRINUCLEIDES Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.C.), 1847, to be accepted as consisting of a Latinised word and therefore as being an available name, though one published with an irregular termination ;
- (3) the name TRINUCLEIDES Hawle & Corda, 1847, to be placed on the *Official Index* specified in (1) above as an Invalid Original Spelling for TRINUCLEIDAE ;
- (4) the name TRINUCLEIDAE (correction of TRINUCLEIDES) Hawle & Corda, 1847, to be placed on the *Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology*.

6. I should add for purposes of record that in the present Minute the name TRINUCLEIDES as published in 1847 has been treated as having been published jointly by Hawle (I.) and Corda (A.J.C.), as stated on the title, and not by Corda alone, as is considered to have been the case

by some specialists, this appearing to be the correct course, pending a ruling by the Commission that the evidence provided by the title be set aside. This question is, however, at this time before the Commission and accordingly the method of citation here adopted is employed solely as a matter of convenience and is liable to revision,<sup>5</sup> if such is required, when the Commission reaches a decision on this matter.

**12. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present "Opinion" :** On 15th December 1957 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* and at the same time signed a Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(57)5, subject to the adjustment as respects certain family-group names specified in the Minute executed by the Secretary on 24th April 1957, the text of which has been reproduced in paragraph 11 of the present *Opinion*.

**13. Original References for Generic and Specific Names :** The following are the original references for the generic and specific names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

*Edgellia* Shaw (A.B.), 1950, in Shaw (A.B.) & Stubblefield (C.J.),  
*J. Paleont.* **24**(5) : 624

*fimbriatus*, *Trinucleus*, Murchison, 1839, *Silurian System* (2) : 660  
*seticornis*, *Asaphus*, Hisinger, 1840, *Lethaea svec.*, Suppl. 2 : 3

*Tretaspis* Murchison, 1839, *Silurian System* (1) : 217, footnote 1

*Tretaspis* McCoy, 1849, *Ann. Mag. nat. Hist.* (2) **4** : 410

*Trinucleus* Link, 1807, *Beschr. nat.-Sammel. Univ. Rostock* **4** : 6

*Trinucleus* Murchison, 1839, *Silurian System* (2) : 649

*tuberculatus*, *Trinucleus*, Link, 1807, *Beschr. nat.-Sammel. Univ. Rostock* **4** : 6

<sup>5</sup> As explained in Footnote 1 the Commission has now given a Ruling that Hawle and Corda are to be treated as having been joint authors of the "Prodrom" of 1847.

**14. References for selections of type species of genera :** The following are the references for the selections of type species for genera specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| For <i>Trinucleus</i> Murchison,<br>1839 | Vogdes, (A.W.) 1890, <i>Bull. U.S.<br/>geol. Survey</i> 63 : 84 |
| For <i>Tretaspis</i> McCoy, 1849         | Bassler (R.S.), 1915, <i>Bull. U.S.<br/>nat. Mus.</i> 92 : 1285 |

**15. References for selections of lectotypes for nominal species :** The following is the reference for the selection of a lectotype for a nominal species specified in the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* :—

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| For <i>Trinucleus fimbriatus</i><br>Murchison, 1839 | Stubblefield (C.J.) & Whittington (H.B.), 1956, <i>Bull. zool. Nomencl.</i> 12 : 51 |
|---|---|

**16. Family-Group Names :** The following are the original references for the family-group names placed by the Ruling given in the present *Opinion* on the *Official List* and *Official Index* of names of taxa of the family-group category :—

- TRETASPINAЕ Whittington (H.B.), 1941, *J. Paleont.* 15 : 23  
 TRINUCLEEN Emmrich (H.[F.]), 1844, *Naturgesch. Trilobiten* : 16  
 TRINUCLEIDES Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.C.),<sup>6</sup> 1847 (an Invalid Original Spelling for TRINUCLEIDAE)  
 TRINUCLEIDAE (correction of TRINUCLEIDES) Hawle (I.) & Corda (A.J.C.), 1847, *Prodrom Mon. böhm Trilob.* : 36 (also published, probably in 1848, in *Abh. Königl.-böhm. Ges. Wiss.* (5) 5 : 152)

**17. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Opinion* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary**

<sup>6</sup>For the authorship here attributed to this name see Footnote 1.

to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

**18.** The present *Opinion* shall be known as *Opinion Five Hundred and Five (505)* of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fifteenth day of December, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission  
on Zoological Nomenclature*

**FRANCIS HEMMING**